United Nations A/C.2/70/L.18

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
28 October 2015

Original: English

Seventieth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20 (d)
Sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

South Africa:* draft resolution

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988, 54/222 of 22 December 1999, 62/86 of 10 December 2007, 63/32 of 26 November 2008, 64/73 of 7 December 2009, 65/159 of 20 December 2010, 66/200 of 22 December 2011, 67/210 of 21 December 2012, 68/212 of 20 December 2013 and 69/220 of 19 December 2014, and other resolutions and decisions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of humankind,

Recalling also the objectives, principles and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[1]

Recalling further that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, with a view to accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions, in the context of article 2 of the Convention, and that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change provides that parties should protect the climate system for the benefit of present and future generations of humankind on the basis of equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities,

Acknowledging that the developed country parties must take the lead in combating climate change and its adverse effects,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

15-18826 (E) 301015

Please recycle

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[3] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[4] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[5] the outcomes of the thirteenth to twentieth sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the third to tenth sessions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011,[6] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[7] the Mauritius Declaration[8] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[9] and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[10]

Recalling also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[11]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", recognizing that it builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete their unfinished business, and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious Agenda, which has poverty eradication at its core and aims at promoting the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions within the framework of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development,

Taking note of the successful and timely initial resource mobilization process of the Green Climate Fund, making it the largest dedicated climate fund and

---

[2] Resolution 55/2.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[4] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[5] Resolution 60/1.

[6] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[7] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[8] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[9] Ibid., annex II.

[10] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[11] Resolution 66/288, annex.

enabling it to start its activities in supporting developing country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that observer States be taken into account in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, expresses profound alarm that the emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise globally, remains deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and are already experiencing an increase in such impacts, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, sea-level rise, coastal erosion and ocean acidification, further threatening food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and in this regard emphasizes that adaptation to climate change represents an immediate and urgent global priority;

2. *Notes* the determination of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, expressed in its decision 2/CP.18,[12] to adopt a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all parties at its twenty-first session, to be held in Paris from 30 November to 11 December 2015, and for it to come into effect and be implemented from 2020;

3. *Takes note* of the outcome of the twentieth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, hosted by the Government of Peru in Lima from 1 to 14 December 2014, and in particular its invitation, in its decision 1/CP.20,[13] to all parties to initiate or intensify domestic preparations for their intended nationally determined contributions, without prejudice to the legal nature of the contributions, in the context of adopting a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all parties towards achieving the objective of the Convention, as set out in its article 2, and to communicate them well in advance of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties in a manner that facilitates the clarity, transparency and understanding of the intended contributions, without prejudice to the legal nature of the contributions;

4. *Notes* the reiteration by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention that the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action shall be guided by the principles of the Convention;

5. *Acknowledges* that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change, taking into account the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action on, inter alia, mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, capacity-building and transparency of action and support;

[12] See FCCC/CP/2012/8/Add.1.
[13] See FCCC/CP/2014/10/Add.1.

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Lima from 1 to 14 December 2014;[14]

7. *Also takes note* of decision 2/CP.20, taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its twentieth session,[15] by which Parties agreed on the composition of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, and its workplan;

8. *Notes* the work undertaken by the Lima-Paris Action Agenda with a view to galvanizing action to address climate change;

9. *Notes* with appreciation the hosting by the Government of France of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, in Paris from 30 November to 11 December 2015;

10. *Welcomes* the offer by the Government of Morocco to host the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in 2016;

11. *Urges* Member States to promote the integration of a gender perspective into environmental and climate change policies and strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources to ensure the full and equal participation of women in decision-making at all levels on environmental issues;

12. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to include observer States in the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its subsidiary bodies in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind".

---

[14] A/70/230, sect. I.

[15] See FCCC/CP/2014/10/Add.2.